



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR**

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR AND BOARD OF HEALTH**

ORDER ALLOWING INCREASED CAPACITY AT GROCERY STORES

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has declared a State of Emergency on March 10, 2020 due to the virus that caused the Coronavirus 2019 (“COVID-19”) pandemic;

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Somerville has determined that the threat of COVID-19 poses a present, real and imminent danger to public health, safety, and general welfare of the people of Somerville and as such declared a State of Emergency in the City of Somerville on March 15, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts closed non-essential businesses, prohibited gatherings of more than ten (10) people by Order No. 13 on March 23, 2020 and per the order the Department of Public Health issued a stay at home advisory on March 24, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has implemented a phased reopening plan, to be conducted in four phases and to date has proceeded through Phase III, Step I;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle the influx of new patients and safeguard public health and safety;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have advised that the spread of the disease from person to person is caused in part by respiratory droplets produced by infected persons and spread, e.g., via respiration, coughing or sneezing, and that people potentially can spread the disease even before they experience symptoms; and

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WHEREAS, the City of Somerville is continuing to monitor the effectiveness and safety of re-opened businesses;

The Mayor and the Board of Health, pursuant to MGL c. 111 §§ 95-105, 310 CMR 11.05, 105 CMR 300.200 and all other authorizing statutes and regulations, acting by and through its agent authorized under MGL c. 111, §30, hereby declare:

1. Notwithstanding the language of Paragraph 2 in the July 3, 2020 Order Extending Business Closure, grocery stores shall be allowed to operate at an increased capacity as set by the Governor's guidelines and orders.

Douglas Kress, Director of Health and Human Services
Acting Agent of the Board of Health

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Date: July 17, 2020